

Durham Environmental Affairs Board
Tuesday, April 25, 2000, 6:00 PM
Durham City Hall, 2nd Floor Committee Room

Meeting Notes

Chairman, Joseph Jackson, called the meeting to order at 6:15 pm. Members in attendance were Hunter Bacot, Jerad Bales, Ed Harrison, Steve Hiltner, Joseph Jackson, Marion Johnson-Thompson, David Kirkpatrick. Staff members in attendance were Terry Rolan, Doug Vaughn, Alex Waddell, and Glen Whisler. Members with an excused absence were Jim Conner, and Brian Morton. Dock Terrell was absent.

Meeting Notes: David Kirkpatrick moved and Ed Harrison seconded approval of notes from March 28, 2000 meeting with modifications.

City of Durham Solid Waste Management Plan Update: Nancy Newell presented the City of Durham Solid Waste Management Plan Update. The previous goal was 25% by 2001 and 40% by 2006. Residential waste is measured in tons per person per year. The base disposal rate was calculated to be 1.31 t/p/y. Initially the 25% goal for 2001, which began in 1989, looked attainable but recent economic prosperity counteracted the forward progress. Current progress is 8% using the City-County Planning Departments population estimates. The new 2010 waste reduction goal is 10%, which equates to a 440 pound reduction per person. The disposal ban ordinance has made an impact with a 32% increase in the amount of tons recycled. A concern of Board members is the non-residential component of waste reduction and the efforts at recycling their products. Efforts are being made to solicit non-residential users participation in preparing a waste reduction plan for their companies. Board members also asked about types of drop off for other potential recyclable materials and the use of differential tipping fees. The City of Durham's focus is educating the public about the need for waste reduction through recycling.

State of North Carolina Solid Waste Management Draft Plan: Scott Mouw presented the State of North Carolina Solid Waste Management Plan Draft. In 1989 the Solid Waste Management Act (otherwise known as Senate Bill 111) was created. The State's goal was a 40% reduction by 2001 with a baseline year of 1991-1992. The overall 40% reduction goal for 2001 will not be attainable due in part to inadequate funding, alternatives not developed, change in dynamics and a strong economy. Some strategies for the future include more education through surveys, forms, and the internet, more realistic goals, research for bio-reactor landfill technologies, a state-wide tipping fee, and pay as you throw. The State has performed a case study of Durham's recycling measures and will be advocating this approach to other areas. Educating the public is a very important aspect needed to attain the goals set forth.

Next Meeting: Joe Jackson received a call from a citizen asking about fluoride in the water and asked Terry Rolan to discuss this topic at the next meeting. Also Joe will try to make arrangements for have someone from Parks and Recreation to discuss the Parks and Recreation Masterplan.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40pm

Notes prepared by Alex Waddell, Durham City-County Planning